climate change on women living in poverty. However, the proposed National Mission for Socio-Economic Empowerment of Women envisages setting targets and monitoring the progress in respect of women centric and women related programmes, implemented by various ministries. Under the National mission, all schemes that provide safe drinking water to habitations, opportunities to provide equal access to community resources, etc., will be monitored with a view to enhance the coping capacity of women to withstand the adverse impact of climate change with particular reference to water, fodder, fuel, Wood and livelihood.

Lake conversation

†2446. SHRI SHREE GOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any plan has been formulated to conserve over 100 lakes in the country;

(b) the potential use of water stored in those lakes;

(c) whether it would be useful to undertake such a plan with regard to the ponds in cities in the country;

(d) if so, whether any plan has been formulated in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) has been formulated by this Ministry for conservation and management of polluted and degraded lakes in urban and semi-urban areas of the county. NLCP is under implementation since June, 2001. Lakes covered under the Scheme are used for various purposes including drinking, irrigation, recreational etc.

(c) to (e) For conservation of ponds, two schemes of 'Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of water bodies, with domestic support and external assistance, are under implementation by Ministry of Water Resources, primarily for improvement of catchment areas of tank commands, increase in storage capacity, ground water recharge, improvement in agriculture and increased availability of drinking water.

Under the scheme covered by external assistance, States may take up projects for funding with 75% loan from the World Bank to be repaid by the States. The balance 25% is contributed by Government of India as Additional Central Assistance to the States for the projects. Under the domestic support scheme, funding is in the ratio of 25:75 (Centre: State) for non-special category States and in the ratio of 90:10 for special category States and drought prone/naxal affected/tribal areas.

Environment Impact Assessment System

2447. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to overhaul the process of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) system;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.